IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the title at page 1, line 1, with

-- METHOD FOR PRODUCING 4,6-DICHLOROPYRIMIDINE --

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the heading at page 8, line 1, with --WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:--

Please cancel Claims 1-9 and add Claims 10-18.

--10. A process for preparing 4,6-dichloropyrimidine comprising reacting 4-chloro-6-hydroxypyrimidine with an acid chloride.

11. The process according to Claim 10 wherein the acid chloride is PCl_3, $POCl_3$, PCl_5, R-PCl_2, R-PCl_4, R-$POCl_2$, or R_3PCl_2, where R represents C_6-C_{10}-aryl, substituted C_6-C_{10}-aryl, C_1-C_{10}-alkyl, or substituted C_1-C_{10}-alkyl; an acid chloride of the formula R'-CO-Cl, where R' represents chlorine, C_1-C_{10}-alkoxy, C_6-C_{10}-aryloxy, -O-CCl_3, -CO-Cl, or C_5-C_{11}-heteroaryloxy having 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N, O, and S, where the alkoxy, aryloxy, and heteroaryloxy radicals are optionally substituted; and $SOCl_2$.

12. The process according to Claim 10 wherein the acid chloride is generated in situ.

13. The process according to Claim 10 wherein 4-chloro-6-hydroxy-pyrimidine is used in isolated form or in the form of a reaction mixture containing the 4-chloro-6-hydroxypyrimidine.

14. The process according to Claim 10 wherein at least 1 mol of acid chloride is used per mole of 4-chloro-6-hydroxypyrimidine.

15. The process according to Claim 10 carried out in the presence of an aliphatic solvent, an aromatic solvent, a nitrile, an N-containing solvent, an ether, or a polyether.

16. The process according to Claim 10 carried out at a temperature in the range 0 to 200°C.

17. The process according to Claim 10 carried out under a pressure in the range 0.1 to 50 bar.